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Comments:

Panther (Big Creek geothermal leasing)

Dear Forest,

Westen Watersheds Project is Attaching some consultation documents that show to some degree the significance of effects in this watershed. However, they barely scratch the surface on the environmental direct, indirect and cumulative effects, and are largely old and out-dated.

We also stress that the discussion in the scoping document on pages 12-18 under Lease provisions is greatly inadequate in analysis of environmental effects of on Watersheds, Fisheries, ground and Surface waters, Cultural Resources, Wilderness and roadless Resources, Recreation and Visual Resources, Forest Vegetation, Transportation and other "general" concerns. ALL connected actions must be analyze in one complete EIS (electrical transmission, logging, road building and upgrades, herbicide use, winter snow plowing disturbance, etc.

Further, the RFFD scenario is greatly deficient as it does not address the adverse impacts of additional leasing, mining, and a host of other disturbance that this may open Pandora's box for. This is segmented, piecemeal, proceed-in-the-dark decisionmaking of the worst kind. And it is occurring in a stressed ESA species watershed in central idaho wild lands.

Katie Fite

Western Watersheds Project